



United States Army Criminal Investigation Command

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An Unequaled Opportunity

Advanced Programs for CID Special Agents

By Colby Hauser
CID Public Affairs

FORT BELVOIR, VA, February 2, 2009 – Professional career opportunities are just one aspect of life as a special agent with the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, commonly referred to as CID. Every year agents have the opportunity to attend some of the most prestigious law enforcement academies and programs in the world.

CID is responsible for investigating felony-level crime of Army interest worldwide. Special Agents within CID are some of the most highly trained criminal investigators and are recognized Federal law enforcement officials. Structured specifically to prevent command influence, CID is a direct reporting command. Due to the level of responsibility placed upon the agents, staying on top of the latest law enforcement tactics, techniques and procedures becomes a vital key to success.

"No matter what the course, from civilian education to Scotland Yard to the FBI National Academy, the training opportunities are outstanding," said Special Agent Edgar Collins, the command forensics officer with Headquarters, USACIDC. "All of these programs, especially the Canadian Police College (CPC) and the FBI National Academy are at the forefront of law enforcement training in the world."

Collins said the latest techniques in profiling, sex offender investigations, advanced investigative techniques, advanced law enforcement agent training, task force management, major case management and organization are taught in-depth during the courses.

Having attended the CPC, FBI and the Forensic Science Officer courses, Collins said the training at the advanced courses not only helped him validate training he had already received but showed him different ways to handle criminal investigations.

"We worked on handling multi-jurisdictional cases, major case management and investigations with outside law enforcement agencies at all levels that at the time I hadn't delved into," he said. "Looking back, both the training and the contacts I made within the law enforcement community have proven to be invaluable."

At CID, the opportunities to earn a Master's Degree in Forensic Science or attend the FBI National Academy, Scotland Yard Academy or the Canadian Police College programs are presented to those who need it most, the agent in the field. Other federal law enforcement agencies or major police departments often reserve this type of training for their most senior investigators or chiefs of police.

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As an organization, CID has fewer than 2000 personnel assigned worldwide, to support both general investigative missions and some of the more specialized tasks assigned. With such a diverse mission, the subject matter taught at the advanced courses complements CID's global operations and serves as building blocks to assist agents with assuming greater responsibilities and leadership roles.

Other training opportunities exist for special agents whose assignments with CID require a specialized skill set. Attendance at the Defense Academy of Credibility Assessment (DACA) formerly known as DoD Polygraph Institute, and the George Washington University's Masters of Forensic Science program, which is associated with



the Office of the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology for Forensic Science Officers (FSO), are examples of how advanced courses compliment agents serving critical missions in the field.

"Scotland Yard was an outstanding experience," said Special Agent Matthew Walters, with the 1001th MP Battalion at Fort Riley, Kansas. "As an agent, it's really good to see how another organization operates and deals with the challenges they face."

Walters was one of six special agents selected in 2008 to attend the Scotland Yard Academy in London, England. He said the course, which focuses on evidence collection, processing and presentation, was invaluable and the exposure to different policies, procedures and the ability to utilize the subject matter experts down the road is an excellent resource for graduates.

"Just the opportunity to attend a program like this is an incentive in itself," Walters said. "The camaraderie is unbelievable; I still stay in touch with the instructors today."

For investigators in today's high operational tempo environment, interagency cooperation and networking is crucial for agents to be successful and attendance at a national academy helps accomplish this task.

"You never know who you'll meet," said Special Agent Angie Janysek, who recently graduated from the FBI National Academy and is stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. "At Quantico, I ran into a former Army MP captain who I knew when he worked for our Protective Services Battalion and is now a federal agent."

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The FBI National academy is one of the premiere law enforcement programs in the world. Participation is by invitation only, and graduates from the academy participate in a wide range of leadership and specialized training, sharing ideas, techniques and experiences with each other and create lifelong partnerships that span department, state and national lines.



There are also specialized units within CID that with perform specialized missions. Units like the Protective Services Battalion (PSB), Major Procurement Fraud Unit (MPFU), Computer Crimes Investigative Unit and the Field Investigative Unit (FIU) are just a few that send agents to the advanced courses, but also send members to additional schools that support their specific missions.

Janysek, who will be taking command of CID's FIU which is tasked with conducting sensitive investigations, said that the personal and professional development an agent takes away from an experience like this should not be taken lightly.

"There is so much knowledge and experience at the academy; you would be hard pressed to not come away as a better Soldier and a better agent," she said.

As with all law enforcement agencies, keeping highly qualified applicants in the

training pipeline is a must. The training and schools section at CID headquarters is always on the lookout for prospective candidates to apply for one of the advanced academies. Serving a global community of more than one million Soldiers, civilians and family members, CID is also always on the lookout for prospective agents.

"We're always looking for agents who would like to attend one of the advanced courses," Janysek said. "Whether it's a mid-career agent looking for a challenge, or even a Soldier thinking about joining CID, we are always on the lookout for those who want to be a part of something special."